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BOX PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES ELECTED/DESIGNATED OFFICE  
OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY-CHAPTER II

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

APPLICANTS: Herbert Heiss et al. DOCKET NO: 112740-217  
SERIAL NO: GROUP ART UNIT:  
EXAMINER:  
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO: PCT/DE99/03613  
INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: 12 November 1999  
INVENTION: METHOD FOR ALIGNING PACKET LOSS PRIORITY  
INFORMATION IN A DATA-PACKET-SWITCHING  
COMMUNICATIONS DEVICE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, D.C. 20231

20 Sir:  
Please amend the above-identified International Application before entry into  
the National stage before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office under 35 U.S.C. §371  
as follows:

**In the Specification:**

25 Please replace the Specification of the present application, including the  
Abstract, with the following Substitute Specification:

**SPECIFICATION****TITLE**

**METHOD FOR ALIGNING PACKET LOSS PRIORITY INFORMATION  
IN A DATA-PACKET-SWITCHING COMMUNICATIONS DEVICE**

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION****Field of the Invention**

The present invention relates, generally, to a method for aligning packet loss  
priority information in a data-packet-switching communications device and, more

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